



DRIVE ROLES

Please do not go on a drive unless you are willing to follow these suggestions.

DRIVE LEADER (DL)

1. Follow the clubs safety guidelines. **The DL does not exceed the speed limit.** Usually, they will drive below the speed limit.
2. Have your drive the way you want to have it. Do not feel pressured to have a drive to make other members happy. The idea is to share an adventure with others who are willing to accept responsibility to be good followers and go on a drive as you have planned it. We want to experience your drive your way. Believe that those that come to your drive want to be there and experience whatever surprises and fun you want to share with them. Acknowledge suggestions, but realize that "Nobody can please everybody all of the time." Have your drive the way you planned for the enjoyment of those that come. All any member expects from your drive is the drive you describe to them. When considering changes to your drive that will please a few, remember the majority that enjoy your drive just the way it is presented and driven. Please don't let suggestions to change your drive take away from what you are trying to share with the group, whether it's a crooked road, a good meal, a grand site, a new experience or just good company. We may eat, sight-see, attend an event or just drive. We may do an easy visiting drive, a quick drive or a leisure paced drive. All of these decisions are up to the DL.
3. Have a Driver's Meeting before each drive to explain the drive and give Rule reminders. Give car movement directions for line-up, start, stop, breaks, parking, lane changes, turns, etc. for safety.
4. The DL may put new members & guests at the front of the line where the pace is more consistent, and ask the advanced drivers to lag at the back to challenge the road. The pace is always faster at the back of the drive line.
5. The DL will appoint a Sweep who will be the last car in the drive line.

The Sweep will have headlights turned on. The DL may exchange phone numbers with the Sweep for emergency communication.

6. In long drive lines, the DL may ask for relay drivers. They will make sure the directions from the DL are properly relayed back and forth in the driveline. It is vital that everyone be willing to "relay" messages as often as it is necessary. If the DL is not responding to a radio message, it means they are not receiving the message. Someone must relay until the message is acknowledged and vice-versa.

SWEEP

1. They will be an experienced group driver chosen by the DL before the drive begins.
2. The sweep will be the last car in the drive line.

3. They will count the cars and keep everyone together.
4. They will inform the DL of any concerns during the drive.
5. Maintain contact with the DL by name.

RANK & FILE

1. Understand "Rules of the Road".

If there are any questions, bring them up before you go on a drive.

2. Be ready, willing and able to follow the DL's direction. It is never appropriate to decide to start your own drive in the middle of another drive or decide to do your own thing in the middle of a drive with 6 cars behind you.

3. Be a good drive follower.

Do not decide how something should be. Do not decide to get on the radio and tell drivers what to do. The DL knows what the big picture is. Let them lead. Listen. Do as you are asked. Be a good follower or do not go on the drive. We have many leaders in the club. However, when we go on a club drive, there is only one leader. Show the respect the DL deserves. Do what is asked of you by the DL and the "Rules of the Road". Have good, safe fun or don't go on that drive! It's for the safety of all.

4. Parking lights on. The DL and Sweep will have full headlights on.

5. Know the names of the drivers in front and behind you. Do a radio check to make sure they can hear you.

6. If you see someone misses a turn or goes the wrong way, get on the radio and tell them their mistake and to turn around. Call the DL and "stop" him until we are all back together again. If the "lost car" does not respond to your radio warning, someone must engage in "hot pursuit" to stop him. Remember, others may be about to follow him. We want to chase one car, not ten. Radio the car behind you to turn at the right place and not to follow you. Getting "lost" should not happen. Listen carefully to what is being said on the radios. Ask for a repeat of something you didn't understand. When someone does get "lost" it is because someone made a mistake and didn't follow group rules and protocol.

Just pay attention, be aware and alert to what's happening around you. If you are confused about something, ask for help on the radio; some "old-timers" have been where you are and will help you.

7. Never drive faster than you are completely comfortable with.

8. Maintain an appropriate closeness to car in front of you so non-club cars don't break our line. Maintain an appropriate closeness to car in front of you to avoid the need to catch-up. Check the distances of cars in front and behind you for the relative spacing between cars and try to follow their example.

9. Leave stop signs and traffic light intersections quickly to allow others to clear it also. Be in gear and ready to clear intersections for those behind you. Look both ways and do quick stops at stop signs. Get up to the speed limit as quickly as possible. If you can't maintain the same distance as the cars in front and behind you, invite those behind you to pass. At an appropriate time.

10. Be responsible for your place in the drive line.

Always be aware of where you are in the driveline. You are responsible for all the club members following you. Realize that if the person directly behind you in line makes a mistake and goes the wrong way, every car behind them will follow and instead of one lost car we have 15 lost cars. If you can't see the car behind you, they won't see you make a turn. Look for their turn signals flashing, proving they are about to make the

turn themselves. You must slow down, use your turn signal, perhaps even stop, but you must not make that turn until you know they see you. If you slow down for them, the car in front will slow down for you, and so on up the line. If you are losing sight of the car in front of you, get on the radio immediately and say "I'm losing sight of the car in front of me, everyone, please check your rearview mirror." Never guess at going straight or turning. Stop! Pay careful attention to the car in front of you; try not to ever lose sight of them. Follow close enough to gauge their speed, to see their driveline, to miss holes, debris, limbs, etc. But, always check for sight of the car behind you.

11. Gaps between cars shouldn't be too close because we won't have time to react and the drive becomes dangerous. Gaps between cars shouldn't be too great because we could be separated (a bungee-cord effect may occur) and the drive becomes dangerous.

12. Trust the DL.

Trust your DL to go at the right speed and tell you what to expect as the drive progresses. The leader may split a longer driveline into smaller groups and assign an interim leader to get us to a designated spot where we will re-group.

13. If you must leave the group, let your leader and sweep know.

14. If you feel pushed, ask those behind you to start in front of you at the next break or wave them to pass at a safe strip of road. If you feel that you want to keep a little closer to the group, ask the car in front of you if you can start in front of them at the next break.

15. Radio Communications.

Always identify yourself and who you want to talk to.

Always respond to callers by name. Notify the DL anytime you think there is a problem. Accident, mechanical problem, lost driver, stopping to wait for someone, whatever. The DL will slow down / stop the rest the group, call an ambulance, get club mechanics, send someone to catch our lost club members, whatever. Do as your DL asks. They know the drive location and how to get help. Your radio may be "knocked out" by mountains, weather, distance, weak batteries, etc. It will be necessary for us to "relay" to and for one another. If the DL is asking for help, he won't "pick up the pace" until "someone" tells him it's all right to proceed. Enjoy your radio, but remember that excessive radio chatter is confusing and distracting to all drivers.

16. Bungee-cord effect. When there are more than 6 cars on a drive, the "bungee effect" is a very real danger. Quick acceleration will allow you to catch-up from stop signs & lights without speeding. It is much easier to keep up on curves and straight-aways rather than trying to catch up. If you are not close to the car in front of you, you can't accurately understand their declining speed or acceleration rate. The "bungee effect" usually starts with line position 4 or 5. That car will lag off the pace just a little by braking at a curve and then speeding up or driving more conservatively than the car in front of them. When that car does speed up to get back to the appropriate distance from the car in front of them, it helps create a gap behind them that requires the next car to speed up to catch up to close the new gap.

As this driving routine continues its way back through the line of cars, the gap increases with each car and creates the need to go farther and faster to close each gap. This causes drivers farther back in the line to exceed their driving comfort zone and they will simply keep a big gap in front of them starting their own drive. Those drivers are creating a dangerous situation for the entire driveline. This situation is everyone's responsibility.



